- 45 - EG015PCT

CLAIMS

- 1. A disintegrant for tablets consisting of an α -1,4-glucan having a degree of polymerization of not less than 180 and less than 1230 and a dispersity (weight average molecular weight "Mw"/number average molecular weight "Mn") of not more than 1.25 or a modified product thereof.
- 2. The disintegrant according to claim 1, wherein said α -1,4-glucan is an enzymatically synthesized α -1,4-glucan.

5

15

20

25

30

- 3. The disintegrant according to claim 1, wherein said disintegrant is a modified product of said α -1,4-glucan, and said modification is a chemical modification selected from the group consisting of esterification, etherification and cross-linking.
 - 4. A binder for tablets consisting of an α -1,4-glucan having a degree of polymerization of not less than 1230 and not more than 37000 and a dispersity of not more than 1.25 or a modified product thereof.
 - 5. The binder according to claim 4, wherein said α -1,4-glucan is an enzymatically synthesized α -1,4-glucan.
 - 6. The binder according to claim 4, wherein said binder is a modified product of said α -1,4-glucan, and said modification is a chemical modification selected from the group consisting of esterification, etherification and cross-linking.
 - 7. A binding-disintegrating agent for tablets consisting of a low molecular weight α -1,4-glucan or a modified product

- 46 -

thereof, and a high molecular weight $\alpha\text{--}1,4\text{--glucan}$ or a modified product thereof,

wherein said low molecular weight α -1,4-glucan has a degree of polymerization of not less than 180 and less than 1230 and a dispersity of not more than 1.25, and

wherein said high molecular weight α -1,4-glucan has a degree of polymerization of not less than 1230 and less than 37000 and a dispersity of not more than 1.25.

- 10 8. The binding-disintegrating agent according to claim 7, wherein said α -1,4-glucan is an enzymatically synthesized α -1,4-glucan.
- 9. The binding-disintegrating agent according to claim 7, wherein said binding-disintegrating agent is a modified product of said α -1,4-glucan, and said modification is a chemical modification selected from the group consisting of esterification, etherification and cross-linking.
- 10. The binding-disintegrating agent according to claim 7, wherein the weight ratio of said low molecular weight α -1,4-glucan or a modified product thereof to said high molecular weight α -1,4-glucan or a modified product thereof is 98:2 to 60:40.

25

30

5

11. The binding-disintegrating agent according to claim 7, wherein the weight ratio of said low molecular weight α -1,4-glucan or a modified product thereof to said high molecular weight α -1,4-glucan or a modified product thereof is 2:98 to 40:60.

or a modified product thereof, and a high molecular weight

12. A tablet comprising a low molecular weight $\alpha\text{-}1,4\text{-}glucan$

- 47 - EG015PCT

 α -1,4-glucan or a modified product thereof,

wherein said low molecular weight α -1,4-glucan has a degree of polymerization of not less than 180 and less than 1230 and a dispersity of not more than 1.25, and

wherein said high molecular weight $\alpha\text{-1,4-glucan}$ has a degree of polymerization of not less than 1230 and less than 37000 and a dispersity of not more than 1.25.

5